July 7, 1867.

AMBLESIDE
JY 7

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because I could not have an easy mind if I did not. I will speak on no other subject, however, than the one on which I think that ought to open my mind to you.

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You told me that you hoped to call on Mr. Walker of "Daily News." What I have to say is that I hope you will. If you had the slightest conception of the treatment that very best European friend of your country has met with from the Americans in England (I am afraid almost every one of them, you would, I am sure, prefer to hear your testimony to Mr. Walker's transcendent services. - Let me give you the heads of the story.

I was invited into the staff of D. News" in 1852, & wrote diligently for it till April 1866, when I was too ill to work any longer. Two editors, - good men, thoroughly anti-slavery, - were my chefs

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till 1859, — both dying at their post. Each of them, & more than once, gave me a hint that our readers did not care to hear so much about Amer[n] affairs. I told them that a revolution was impending — sure to happen either in 1856 or 1860: & that it wd be an honour & benefit then to "D. News" to have steadily anticipated it & prepared England & France for it. So it turned out: but there was more than one crisis when the responsibility of taking part with the North was an enormous burden to a man of the delicate conscientiousness of my friend, Mr Walker, at such times, — & twice especially — he had only me on the one side, & the whole public opinion of London, & the intense anxiety & doubt of the Proprietory of "D. News" on the other. The anxiety to decide right, — to ascertain the right clearly, — twice all but cost him his life. He had serious & long illnesses, from the effect of wh he has not recovered — & never will. Moreover, on the entrance of two new

Proprietors, he had to take his ground against a new enemy. He wd not yield a hair's breadth of the ground he was steadily holding on behalf of the North: & when too strongly urged, he actually resigned the Editorship. (You perceive I give you these details in confidence.) The paper stood so high, it was so flourishing, & such another Editor was so impossible to be had, that the Proprietors yielded everything, & from that hour left him at entire liberty. — The plain truth is that you owe it to this one man that any such knowledge of your case & your reasons existed in this country & in France as prevented an alliance of both with the South. It was he who gave the Lancashire people the ideas, & roused in them the feelings from wh they acted; & he did this while Bright & Cobden were mute & showed their disposition to humour the South, when compelled to make any manifestation at all.

You see now what Mr W's course was, & what he sacrificed & risked for the right.

I will be as brief as I can in showing you what return he has met with. I shd have done it earlier, but that I had no idea till this week how the case stood - as to the behaviour of the Americans in London; & I know it now only as an explanation of Mr W. not having met you. No one of them has held out a hand to him. No one has gone near him, - except to ask favours during the dark days of the struggle. Some, to my knowledge, treat him as a mere agent of their own, - claiming to be the author of all those articles in D. News wh did much good to the North." W. W. Story boasted of having directed that influence to the end, & of having written the leaders (wh, in point of fact, were all mine); & not a line of his ever appeared in D. N. but two essays (unsound in doctrine) on the "Trent" affair, wh were printed (with dissent from their doctrine) at my request, - for wh Story wrote to me. Not one word of his ever appeared afterwards, & not an atom of influence did he ever exert one

the newspaper, or any one connected with it. — As soon as the prospect brightened, & the North felt more secure, I & others were struck by a new symptom, — a disposition to disclaim any obligation to English newspapers generally, & to "D. News" in particular; & I know that when it was pointed out, & could not be denied, that "D. News" had been on the right side throughout, the reply was that it did not matter what "D. News" said, — as it was a paper of small circulation & no influence! — (that paper which had led the whole press of Europe on the true side! As the need of its aid died out, this small jealousy & large ingratitude grew & spread, so that now, I see in

other journals (the "Transcript" for one) that "D. News" barely keeps its head above water, & has only 6000 subscribers. (We know nothing of "subscribers" in the matter of newspapers here. I told you how absurd this statement is, & that I know that it is a splendid property. — But I have never said a word to Mr Walker about this last injurious insult, & I don't know whether he is aware of it. There is quite enough within his own experience & observation to account for his not having seen at the breakfast, as I am sure you will feel.

He is a gentle-tempered,

magnanimous, thoroughly good-
natured man, whose course, now
as always, has been "all, all for
right, & nothing for reward."
But, when Mr Chesson sent
him an invitation to meet you
at the "Morning Star" office,
he naturally could not bring himself
to answer it. He would do over
again exactly what he did about
your great struggle; but, having
met with jealousy, insult & slander
where he had a right to look for
sympathy (he does not want praise or
thanks) he simply absents himself,
saying only that he "cannot understand
their behaviour."
I think some of it may be owing

to [redacted] vexation that "D. News" is not Oleanist. I knew of his offence at that, long ago. He made an insulting remark on it, – unable to see, as most other people do, that the Oleander family have been as bad for liberty as the Bonapartes. The treatment of me by that family (& other Americans) makes my friends in London stare, – knowing as they do what my course has been in regard to America. But none of us care a straw for all this – & even my dear M. W. Chapman is easy about my indifference to it. But the case is different with one of the leading newspapers in the world; & I deeply regret the temper of the Americans concerned, for the sake of their reputation in Europe & (I may add) of their own peace of mind. They seem to be living in a constant tempest of passion & to fancy that this is strength, & not weakness! – Well, dear, you see that I earnestly wish that you were